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something very different from all the other days of the week. Our intellectual discourses in general have about as much religion as would be suitable for a sober lecture before an Athenæum, or an article in a respectable Review. I have frequently listened to discourses from the pulpit which I certainly would not have read on the Sabbath, for the simple reason that I should have considered them too secular for the holy day."

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13. — *Daisy's Necklace: and What Came of It.* (A Literary Record.) By T. B. ALDRICH. New York: Derby and Jackson. 1857. 12mo. pp. 225.

WE noticed a year or two ago a volume of poems by Mr. Aldrich as foretokening a high order of literary excellence. The promise is more than fulfilled. Daisy's Necklace is a poem, though in prose; and while the story is in itself skilfully planned and developed, a still higher interest attaches to its brilliant imagery and rich sentiment, — to the perpetual play of an exuberant fancy, that throws its sunlight and rose-hues over every character and incident. Seldom have we read a chapter of so highly yet so chastely wrought delineation as the opening chapter of this book; and though the scene soon changes from a vine-embowered family mansion by the sea-shore to the dingy and dusty localities of the great metropolis, the same golden vein threads the streets, penetrates the gloomy counting-room, and gleams in the cells of the Tombs. Mr. Aldrich has won for himself by this book a deservedly high place among those to whom the coming generation is to look for the fair fame of American literature.

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14. — *Compositions in Outline, by* FELIX O. C. DARLEY, *from* JUDD'S *Margaret.* Engraved by KONRAD HUBER. New York: Redfield. 1856. Plates 30.

WE have for our April number the promise of a review of this superb work, by a contributor who can do ample justice to the genius both of the author and the artist. To our eye it is the masterpiece of American art; nor can we conceive of it as capable of being excelled in its own kind. No modern fiction presents richer materials for such a work than Margaret, with its characters and situations at once so grotesque and so natural, so unique, and yet so manifestly copied, and hardly intensified, from life and fact. The artist has entered with clear insight and profound sympathy into the conceptions of the author, and,

it seems to us, has produced just such a series of delineations as Mr. Judd would have drawn, if his hand could have sketched for the outward vision the forms which his word-pictures placed before the inward eye. We have never before been so impressed with the capacity of this one department of the pictorial art. We are reminded of Paganini's performing the most complex symphonies on a violin with but two whole strings. Outline drawing excludes coloring and shading; and yet so perfect is the execution in this volume, that the lines are made to suggest every variety of color, and to produce the effect of nicely attempered light and shadow. Thus, in the sketch of "Tony Washington," the mere outlines of his countenance not only mark him as an African, but express even his blackness; so that any child, at the first glance, would pronounce it a negro's face. We seem thus to see the entire effect of painting produced by what corresponds only to its preliminary processes. The work rises into even national importance, when we consider that it is the most truly indigenous of our American fictions that has offered scope for equal and kindred talent in an allied department of imaginative art.

15.—*Annals of the American Pulpit; or Commemorative Notices of Distinguished American Clergymen of various Denominations, from the Early Settlement of the Country to the Close of the Year Eighteen Hundred and Fifty-Five. With Historical Introductions.* By WILLIAM B. SPRAGUE, D. D. Vols. I. and II. *Trinitarian Congregational.* New York: Robert Carter and Brothers. 8vo. pp. 723, 778.

OF this work also we are compelled to postpone our intended review; but we cannot suffer so important and unique a contribution to American history and biography to remain wholly unnoticed. We have here the first-fruits of the patient and well-directed labor of many years. Dr. Sprague's plan is to furnish the best attainable memoir in brief of every deceased American clergyman who has reached any distinction or eminence, however short-lived or local. His aim also is to have the story of every life told by the person or persons best fitted to do it justice. The denominations are to be arranged in an order of priority determined by the number of subjects which they respectively furnish; while the subjects afforded by each are sketched in chronological order. Only with regard to some of the earliest divines has resort been had to printed authorities. The greater part of the